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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/056,418

01/22/2002

Todd Campbell

P895 US

8065

28390

7590

08/23/2006

MEDTRONIC VASCULAR, INC.
IP LEGAL DEPARTMENT
3576 UNOCAL PLACE
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VI X

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3734

DATE MAILED: 08/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/056,418	Applicant(s) CAMPBELL, TODD	
	Examiner Victor X. Nguyen	Art Unit 3734	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 May 2006.
 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 34-36, 38 and 42 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10-33 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) ☒ Claim(s) 34-36, 38 and 42 is/are rejected.
 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Amendment After Final Action filed 5/22/2006, with respect to claims 34-36,38 and 42 are acknowledged. The indicated allowability of claims 37-41 are withdrawn in view of the art of records (US 2001/0020181, US 6,096,070) and reconsideration of the prior arts.

Rejections based on the cited reference(s) follows. The examiner regrets the delay for this new rejection which may have caused.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 34,38 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Layne (US 2001/0020181) in view of Ragheb et al (6,096,070)

Layne discloses in figure 3, a stent assembly having the limitations as recited in the above listed claims, including: a stent 30, a plurality of bands 52 circumferentially wrapped around the stent, where the plurality of bands include at least first and second band (see fig. 3), where the bands elastically can grip the stent. However, Layne is silent regarding the bands contain different therapeutic agents.

Ragheb teaches the stent has different therapeutic agents (see col. 3, lines 40-50 and col. 4, lines 42-65)

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the same time the invention was made to modify Layne by making the bands contain different therapeutic agents as

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taught by Ragheb in order to facilitate of different therapeutic agents that can be useful to the stent site or having of different degrees of flexibility to the stent site.

As to claims 35-36, Layne discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Layne is silent regarding the bands are made of different polymers and the bands have two layers.

Ragheb teaches the stent has different polymers and the bands have two layers (see col.7, lines 15-30, fig. 3).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the same time the invention was made to modify Layne by making the bands contain different polymers and the bands have two layers as taught by Ragheb in order to facilitate of different therapies that can be useful to the stent site or having of different degrees of flexibility to the stent site.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 3/29/2006 have been considered but are moot in view of new ground(s) of rejections. Applicant is asked to please refer to the modified prior art rejection above wherein the examiner addresses applicant's concerns regarding prior art rejections.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor X. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4699. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8-4.30 P.M).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Hayes can be reached on (571) 272-4697. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Victor X Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 3734



VN
8/9/2006



MICHAEL J. HAYES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER